(c) the progress made so far in implementation of the project; and

(d) the reasons for the delay and cost escalation incurred so far on account of the delay?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Maharashtra Maritime Board submitted a proposal for an estimated cost of Rs. 195.50 crore in July 2002 for inclusion in the proposed National Coastal Protection Project (NCPP). The proposal includes 72.36 Km of anti-sea erosion works in Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Thane, Raigarh, Ratnagiri ad Sindhudurg Districts. As the NCPP has been planned for seeking external funding, an approach paper on coastal protection has been prepared and submitted to the Planning Commission who has taken up the matter for exploring the possibility of external funding.

Bangalore-Mysore Highway

1779. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have failed to beat its deadline of 30th September, 2005 to complete the four-lane Bangalore-Mysore Highway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the expected target date at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (c) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The four-laning of Bangalore-Mysore Highway is a State road project. Government of Karnataka is responsible for four-lanning of this Highway.

Private participation in National Highways

1780. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether being unable to secure private participation in National Highway stretches in Bihar, North East and Jammu and Kashmir, Government's support is sought to be increased from 40 per cent to 60 per cent to ensure completetion of work on National Highway on schedule;